13.

ARTICLES

To bee enquired of by the Minister, Church-wardens, and Side-men of euery Parish, and Precinct, within the Arch-Deaconry of LINCOLNE.

13

Giuen in charge, in the visitation of the Right Worshipfull Mr. MORGAN WINNE Doctor of Diuinity, Arch-deacon of LINCOLNE.

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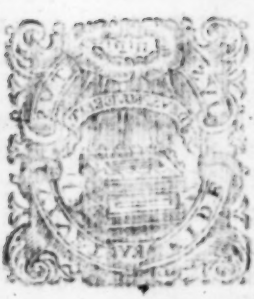

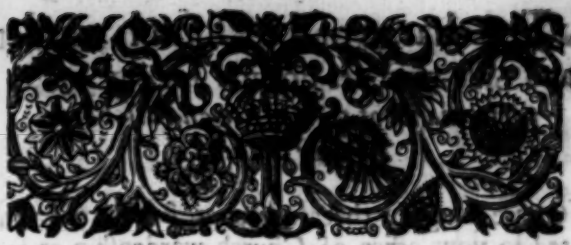

The forme of the Oath miniſtered unto the Churchwardens and Sidemen.

YOu ſhall ſweare, that you, and euery of you, ſhall duely conſider, and diligently inquire of all theſe Articles giuen you in charge, and that all fauour, hatred, hope of reward, feare of diſpleaſure, or any other corrupt affection ſet aſide, you ſhall preſent vnto vs, or our Officiall, all and euery ſuch perſon which now is, or lately was in your Pariſh, as haue committed any Inceſt, adultery, fornication, profanation of the Lords day, or contempt of authoritie againſt the gouernement of the Church of England, or refuſe to pay their dutie to the Church, or duely to execute the office that lieth vpon them, or haue committed any offence or default compriſed in any of theſe Articles, or which are vehemently ſuſpected, or defamed of any ſuch offence or default. Wherein you ſhall deale according to an vpright conſcience, neither preſenting, nor ſparing to preſent, any perſon contrary to truth; hauing in this action God before your eyes, with an earneſt zeale to maintaine truth, and to ſuppreſſe vice. So helpe you God and his faithfull promiſes in Ieſus Chriſt.

The charge of the Church-wardens and Side-men, ſet downe for the better *performance of their office and diſcharge of their Oathes.*

YOu are charged, that after you are ſworne and admitted to your office of Church-wardenſhip, at ſome conuenient time before euery viſitation, you require your Miniſter to read ouer to you the booke of Canons, ſet forth by authority *Anno Dom.* 1604. and alſo theſe Articles, and to conſider of euery particular article, and of the offences inquired of in the ſame: and alſo of ſuch in your pariſh as are or haue bin noted and vehemently ſuſpected to offend in the ſame or any of them. And you are to make your bill of preſentment, and anſwering to euery article which concernes your pariſh ſeuerally by it ſelfe, ſubſcribing your names ſeuerally. And your Miniſter is to take notice, that according to the 26. Canon he is to looke to it, that the Church-wardens omit not to doe their duties in preſenting: that ſo while euery man in his office and calling doth performe his duty with a good conſcience, the godly diſcipline of the Church of England may be duely and without ſcandall executed, offences duely corrected, and the vnity of the Church to Gods glorie maintained and ſecured.

Articles

ARTICLES TO BE ENQUIRED OF BY THE Minister, Church-wardens, and Sidemen of euery Parish, and Precinct, within the Arch-deaconry of LINCOLNE.

Concerning the Church.

WHETHER haue you in your Church all things requisite for the Common Prayer and due administration of the Sacraments, according to his Maiesties lawes and Canons Ecclesiastical lately established: and namely, a faire Bible, the booke of Common Prayer authorized, a Font of stone set vp in the ancient vsuall place, a decent Communion Table, with a Carpet of Silke, or some other seemely stuffe, and a faire Linnen cloth to lay thereon at the time of the Communion, a faire Communion Cup with a couer of siluer, a decent Pulpit with a cloth and Cushion for the same, a conuenient seat to read Seruice in, a comely large Surplisse, a strong Chest for Linnen for the poore, hauing three lockes and keyes, and another Chest for the keeping of the Ornaments of the Church and the Church Register booke: and whether haue you a Register booke of Parchment, of all Christnings, weddings, and burialls: and whether is the same kept according to the Canons? Canon. 82. 81. 82. 83. 14. 70.

2 Whether your Church, or Chappell, Chancell and Churchyard be kept in good reparations, as well within as without: whether any prophanation be vsed in them, or any man hath incroached vpon them, or pulled downe any part of the Church or Chancell without licence first obtained from the ordinary? Whether hath there bin in your parish Church or Churchyard any 85. 88.

Playes, Feasts, Faires, Temporall Courts or Leets, lay Impropriators, Pulters, or other prophane vsage and meetings in either of them, and by what persons, and whether your Parsonage or Vicarage house and all the houling thereunto belonging, be likewise maintained in sufficient reparations: if not, through whose default is it: and what is the defect?

78. 3 Whether have you a Terrier of all the Gleabes, Lands, Meadowes, Gardens, Orchards, Houses, Stockes, Implements, Tenements, and portions of Tythes lying within or without your Parish, which belong vnto your Parsonage, or Vicarage, and in whose hands it doth remaine?

Concerning the Minister.

14. 4 Whether diuine Seruice be said in your Church by your Minister distinctly and reuerently, on all Sundayes,
15. and holydayes appointed to be obserued by the lawes of England, and on their Eues, and on Wednesdayes and Fridayes at conuenient and vsuall times: and whether doth he in ministring the Sacraments, solemnizing of Matrimony, visitation of the sicke, burying of the dead, churching of women, and all other Rites and offices of the Church, vse the formes of Prayers prescribed in the Booke of Common Prayer, without any Omission, or Addition: and whether doth he read the booke of Canons once yearly,
58. and weare a Surplisse according to the Canon?

22. 5 Whether doth your Minister solemnly giue warning to his Parishioners for the administration of the holy Communion, and
64. for the obseruation of all holidayes, and fasting-dayes: and
67. whether doth hee visit the sicke, and exhort them to giue to
84. the poore: and whether doth he conferre with Recusants in your
66. Parish (if there be any) according to the Canons: and whether
62. doth hee admit to the holy Communion any Church-warden
27. who neglecting his Oath hath omitted to present any notorious offenders, or any publike Iuries, or hath he admitted any
28. Schismatickes, or strangers, or reiect any who are not by pre-
29. sentment, or publike scandall infamous for some notorious crime: and whether doth he admit any Father to be Godfather to his owne child, or any to be Godfathers and Godmothers,

which

which haue not receiued the holy Communion? and whether hath he not vse the signe of the Crosse in Baptisme, or doth baptize in any Basin, or other Vessell, and not in the vsuall Font, or doth baptize any Children that were not borne within the Parish? and whether doth he marry any in any exempt place, or 62.
without banes published three seuerall Sundayes or holydayes, 63.
or without a sufficient dispensation or licence, or without licence in times prohibited, Videlicet, from the Sunday next before Aduent Sunday vntill the 14. of Ianuary, and from the Sunday next before Septuagesima vntill Sunday after low-Sunday, and from the Sunday before Rogation weeke vntill Trinity Sunday; albeit the Banes were thrice published, or not betweene the houres of Eight and Twelue in the forenoone, or 100.
(if the parties be vnder the age of One and Twentie yeares) before their Parents or Gouernours haue signified their consents vnto him? and whether doth he refuse to Christen, or to 68.
burie, or deferre the same any longer than he should? and whether by his default any child hath dyed without baptisme in 69.
your Parish?

6 Whether doth he preach, minister the Communion, baptize 71.
Children, vnlesse in case of necessitie, solemnize marriage, or
church women in priuate houses? or doth he keepe or suffer any
fasts, Prophesies, Exercises, or Exorcismes, without lawfull 72.
authority? or doth he hold or suffer any priuate conuenticles con- 73.
trary to the Canons? and whether doth he frequent Tauernes,
Alehouses, or any place suspected of incontinencie? or doth he 75.
Table or lodge in any such house? or is he a common gamester at
Dice, Cards, Tables, or any other vnlawfull game? or is he a
hoarer, or drunkard, or one that applyeth not himselfe to his
study, giuen to seruile labour, or is otherwise offensiue, or
scandalous to his function and ministery? or doth he not vse de- 74.
cency in his apparell, as by the Canons he is enioyned?

7 Whether is he continually resident vpon his Benefice? or 45.
how long time hath he beene absent from the same? and (in case 47.
he be licensed to be absent) whether doth he cause his Cure to be
sufficiently supplyed by a licensed Curate according to the Ca-
nons? whether (if he be a Preacher allowed) doth he Preach 52.
one Sermon every Sunday tending to teach true obedience

and

46. and edifying in matters of faith and true religion without in-
termedling with matters of State, or (if not so allowed) wh
he procure monthly Sermons and reade Homilies? and wheth
49. (not being so allowed) doth he expound any Scripture, or ad-
fer any man to preach in your Church, whom you have no
well knowne to have beene sufficiently licensed, and who hath no
first subscribed his name, together with the day when he sh
preach, and who was not soberly or decently apparelled, an
who did not conforme himselfe to the Lawes of the Church o
74. England?

8 Whether your Preacher and Lecturer read divine Ser-
56. vice, and minister the Sacraments twice in the yeare at least,
in his owne person, according to the Canons? and whether
55. doth he vse the forme of prayer, before his Sermon, for the
Kings most excellent Maiestie and his progenie, exhorting the
people to obedience to his Maiestie, and other Magistrates in
authority under him?

9 Whether doth your Minister on Sundaies and holydaies,
catechise the youth and ignorant persons in your parish, accor-
ding to the order prescribed in the booke of Common Prayer and
59. according to the Canons? and whether doth he in the Rogation
dayes vse the perambulation of the circuit of the parish, appoin-
ted by the Law, according to his dutie?

65. 10 Whether doth he (every six moneths) denounce in your
Parish Church, all such of your Parish as doe persevere in the
sentence of excommunication or suspention not seeking to be
absolued? and whether hath he admitted any such excommu-
nicate or suspended person to the Communion, or to the
Church, without Certificate of his absolution vnder the
Iudges seale? and whether doth he, or any of your Parish, fa-
miliarly frequent the company of any such excommunicate
person?

Concerning Parishioners.

11 Whether any of your Parishioners doe not cause their
Children, Seruants, and Apprentices to come to their
59. minister vpon Sundayes and Holydayes, to be instructed in the
Catechisme by him? and whether any of them refuse or neg-
lect

hat to come to Communion, which to leaue their inferiours to
forth in the booke of Common Prayer: and what be the names
of them so offending, or refusing?

12 Whether any of your Parishioners, or other strangers 13.
loytering, lounging, or commonly resorting to any house
within your Parish, being above fiftene yeares of age, doe
wilfully or negligently absent themselues from your Parish
Church, vpon Sundayes or Holydayes, at Morning and Eue-
ning Prayer: or who come very late to Church vpon those dayes:
or who depart from Church before the diuine Seruice be finished:
or who do not reuerently behaue themselues during the time of di- 18.
uine Seruice, deuoutly kneeling at such times as the generall confe-
ssion of sinnes, the Letany, the ten Commandements, and all the
Prayers and Collects are read: and what Men, Women, and
Boyes, during all that time, haue not had their heads wholly vncou-
ered, except in case of apparent sickenesse: and who doe vse any
gaming or pastimes abroad, or in any house, or doe sit in the Street, or
Churchyard, or in any Tauerne, or Victualling house, vpon any of
those dayes in the time of diuine Seruice: and who haue quarrel-
led, brawled, or vsed violence to any person within your Church or
Churchyard: and who haue vsed filthy and prophane talke, or other
rude and immodest behauiour: and what be the names of the offen-
ders herein?

13 Whether there be any of, or in your Parish, being Sixteene 21.
yeares of age, and vpward, that doe not receiue the holy Commu-
nion in your Church thrice in the yeare at the least, and chiefly
once at Easter: and whether any of your Parish doe not deuoutly
kneele at the receiuing thereof: and whether doth not your Mini-
ster receiue it himselfe, deuoutly kneeling, on euery day that he ad-
ministreth it to others, and vse the words of Institution at euery
time the Bread and Wine is administred: and whether haue all
those persons which haue been partakers of the holy Communi-
on, signified their names vnto the Minister, or vnto some other
person (by him thereunto appointed) ouer-night, or else in the Mor-
ning before the beginning of Morning Prayers, according to the
forme prescribed in the booke of Common Prayer aforesaid, to the
intent the Minister, and all others appointed to haue the charge
and care thereof, may fully be answered, and take notice (in due

time) of all them that haue béene Communicants, and of all them that haue not béen Communicants at the time and times appointed for the same? To which purpose, that the people may be prepared so to doe, the Minister shall giue publique warning thereof in the Church, on the next Sunday before the Communion shall be celebrated. And whether doe your selues diligently obserue your office, in marking what persons of, or within your Parish, offend against this, and the next precedent Article, in due presenting of their names? 22.

14 Whether any hauing béene ordained Priest, or Deacon, hath relinquished the same, and betaken himselfe to a course of life as a lay man? and whether any (not being in Orders) do openly read Common Prayer, or execute any ministeriall dutie in the Church, and what bée their names?

15 Whether there bée any that doe publikely or priuately speake against the booke of common Prayer, deprauing the same, or any thing therein contained? or doe so speake against, or deprane any of the Articles of Religion, agréed vpon in Anno Domini 1562. or against the Kings royall Supremacie in causes Ecclesiasticall, or against any of the Rites or Ceremonies of the Church of England, or against the gouernement of the said Church of England, vnder the Kings most excellent Maiestie, by Arch-bishops, Bishops, Deanes, Arch-deacons, and other Officers thereunto lawfully appointed, affirming that the same is repugnant to the Word of God, and that the said Ecclesiasticall Officers are not lawfully consecrated or ordained? or whether doth any vnreuerently vse their Ministers person or his office and calling by word or déed? or whether there be any that be Authours or maintainers of Schisme, or frequenters of any priuate Conuenticles, or meetings? or any that be, or be suspected to be Anabaptists, Libertines, Brownists, or of the Family of Loue, or of any other Heresie, or Schisme, and what be their names? 4. 6. 2. 30. 7. 9. 10. 11.

16 Whether do you know any Schoole-master that doth teach, or Curate that doth reade diuine Seruice within your Parish, without licence of his Ordinarie vnder his Seale? and whether doth not such Schoolemaster instruct his Schollers in the Catechisme, and teach them the grounds of Religion, and bring them to Church to heare diuine Seruice and Sermons? and whether is 77. 48. 79.

he

ye a Tradesman, or Artificer, or any wayes reprouable in life? and whether is your Parish Clarke allowed by the Ordinary? and whether doth your Clarke serue more places than one? and whether doe they demeane themselues according to their seuerall duties? or doe any in your Parish refuse to pay the Clarke his dwall wages?

17 Whether haue you any Midwiues in your Parish, and how many of them bee there, and how long haue they exercised that Office, and by what authoritie, and how are they approoued by ancient women for their skill therein? and whether haue you in your Parish any that doe practise as Physitians or Chirurgions, and how long haue they done so, and by what authoritie, and of what skill are they reputed in their profession?

18 Whether doe you know any persons that doe administer the goods of the dead, without lawfull authoritie of the Ordinary? or suppresse the last will of the dead? or with-hold any Rights of the Church, or any Legacies giuen to charitable and godly vses? and whether is the Almes of the Church faithfully distributed to the vse of the poore? and whether haue you in your parish any persons, who haue not resorted to your Parish Church vpon euery Sunday and Holyday, and there made their abode orderly, and soberly, during all the time of the Common Prayers, and Sermons, and other Seruice of God, according to the expresse charge contained in the Stat. Eliz. and whether the late Churchwardens haue giuen a iust account of all the Church Rights and goods by them had and receiued, according to the Canons? or 68.
whether haue they, or any other of your Parish, alienated any goods, Bells, or other Church goods, and what were the values of them? or whether doe any dwelling in your Parish, or that occupieth ground within your Parish, refuse to pay as they are lawfully ceased to the Fabricke or Vtensills of your Church, or other necessary duties? Present their names, and defaults, for feare that after your Office expired, you cannot come by the Cessement without making your selues partie to their suits.

19 Whether doe you know in your Parish any common 109.
swearers, drunkards, blasphemers, simoniacall persons, any witches, coniurers, bath layers, charmers, fornicators, adulterers, Incestuous persons, brawlers, common slanderers of their

Neighbours, Naylers, Scolds, or alwaies with Churchwardens or Sidesmen, for doing their office, filthy and lascivious talkers, sowers of discord betwixt Neighbours, or any that receive or lodge incontinent persons, or harbour women with child that is unmarried, conveying or suffering them to goe away before they have made satisfaction to the congregation? or any persons that are by common fame noted, or vehemently suspected of any of these crimes, or that being heretofore suspected or presented for any of these faults, have for that cause departed out of your Parish, and are now returned? you are to specifie their names and offences.

99. 20 Whether there be any persons within your Parish, that is married within the prohibited degrees of Consanguinity, or Affinitie? or whose husbands or wives are yet alive, albeit divorced from them? or that being lawfully married, doe live scandalously apart? or that were married in times prohibited, or without banns thrie severall Sundayes or Holidayes published, having no sufficient licence or dispensation for the same? and whether there be
57. any that doe communicate, or cause their Children to be baptized in other parishes abroad? or keepe their children unbaptized longer than is convenient? and you are to specifie the offender, and offences herein.

21 Whether any woman delivered of child in your Parish, in time convenient after childe-birth, hath not come to the usuall place in the Church to give God thanks, as it is appointed by the booke of Common Prayer? and whether doth your Minister admit any thereto, who was begotten with child in adulterie or fornication, without licence from the Ordinary?

23 Whether any person, or persons in your Parish doe use or exercise, or have used or exercised any Trade, Handicraft, or bodily labour, or doe buy, or sell, or keepe open shops or ware-houses, upon any Sunday or Holiday, either by themselves, or their Apprentices or Servants? or have otherwise prophaned the said dayes contrary to the orders of the Church of England? and whether there be any Inne-keepers, Victuallers, Ale-house-keepers, Victuallers, that permit any persons in their houses, to eate, drinke, or play at any games during the time of divine Service or Sermon on those dayes? and you are to specifie the offences and the offenders.

24 Whether doe any in your Parish familiarly frequent the companie of excommunicate persons? and whether doth your Minister, or any of your Parish, without consent of your Ordinary, enioyne any to doe penance, or to be censured or punished by any lesser meetings, or otherwise by their owne authority, or doe or have taken any money for any crime, or matter punishable by the Ecclesiasticall lawes? and you are to specifie the names of them that have beene so punished, and in what manner, and upon what cause.

25. Whether have you, and every of you the Churchwardens and Side-men, immediately after, or else within the space of one weeke next and immediatly insuing your admission (by vs, or our authority) into this your office, and thence the same, once in every moneth at the least, diligently and carefully read, or heare read, and duely considered of all and every of these Articles given you in charge? and whether have you, and every of you diligently and carefully endeavoured to enquire and know the offences and offenders against all and every the contents of these Articles? and whether have you duely presented all and every of them vnto the Ordinary, according to your generall oathes? and if any one, or more of you the Church-wardens, and Side-men, be knowne, or have heard of any fault enquired of in these Articles, or of any other crime (the reformation whereof belongeth to the Ecclesiasticall Jurisdiction) which hath not beene formerly duely punished by Ecclesiasticall authoritie? that then you shall informe one another thereof, and shall likewise present the same, by vertue of your oathes taken as aforesaid.

26 Whether have you the Church-wardens, and Side-men at fit seasons, met together, and (in the presence of your Minister) conferred of your presentments to be made, and your answers vnto every of these precedent Articles which concerne your parish? and whether have you required your Minister to be present with you, and to assist you at those times? Intimating hereby, that if you will not present, according to your oathes and charge, your Minister may himselfe present such faults and crimes, as are before particularly enquired of in these precedent Articles, for the due reformation of the same.

WHereas in diuers great Parishes within the Arch-deaconry of Lincolne, multitudes of people vsually come to receiue the holy Communion; some of whom are persons excommunicated: is it thought to be very conuenient, that in euery Parish the names of all such persons excommunicated, be alwayes kept in a written booke for that purpose from time to time, that so the Minister (when he is to administer that holy Sacrament) may thereby beremembred of those persons excommunicated, and so auoid them.

And because that often experience hath manifested, that the due reading, and obseruing of Articles giuen in charge, haue been much neglected, and so consequently offenders haue not been detected, but escaped vnpunished, by reason that the sworne Church-wardens, and Side-men, haue either not vnderstood, or else not remembred what they ought to haue done, whereby diuers great inconueniences haue ensued: It will be very needfull for the Church-wardens and Side-men often to view, and consider their charge expressed in the beginning of these Articles, and also these Articles particularly: and to present offenders in them so often as occasion shall serue, lest by omitting their duty therein they incurre the Censure of oath breakers and the punishment of periurie in the Ecclesiasticall Court.

Lastly, we intimate that we doe not onely desire to reforme others, but our selues also: therefore if you know of any Officer of the Iurisdiction that hath carried himselfe indirectly in his place: viz. If a Iudge without a Register, or a Register without a Iudge haue ordered, censured, or dismissed any from the Iurisdiction: or if any Officer hath suppressed or concealed any presentment, or neglected to doe due execution vpon the same: or if any Apparitor haue kept backe from denouncing or certifying any Excommunication or Suspension, or counterfeited any Ecclesiasticall Processe, or misbehaued himselfe in any thing pertaining to his Office, let the particulars be signified to me, or my Officiall, and they shall be both well taken at your hands, and also, by Gods assistance, redressed to your satisfaction.

FINIS.